

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination and reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of the rejections, and formal notification of the allowability of all claims as now presented are earnestly solicited in light of the remarks that follow.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-16, and 18-27 are pending in the application. In order to expedite prosecution, claims 28-31, which are the only rejected claims, have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants do not acquiesce to any rejections of record and reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims in a continuation application. It is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for immediate allowance. It is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions in order to expedite examination of this case.

A supplemental IDS is submitted herewith. Consideration of the listed documents (Citation Nos. 133-147) is respectfully requested. Additionally, Applicants note that the Examiner did not initial Citation Nos. 131 and 132 on the IDS submitted June 27, 2006. Applicants request a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 with the next communication from the Office.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

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